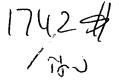
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Attorney Docket No.: 291958170US2 Semitool Ref. No.: P99-0006US3

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Ritzdorf et al.

Application No.: 09/885,451

Confirmation No.: 3390

Filed: June 20, 2001

Art Unit: 1742

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LOW

TEMPERATURE ANNEALING OF

METALLIZATION MICRO-STRUCTURES IN

THE PRODUCTION OF A MICROELECTRONIC DEVICE

Examiner: W. T. Leader

## **AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated September 22, 2004, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as reflected in the following listing of claims starting on page 2. Additionally, please find enclosed a Declaration of Thomas L. Ritzdorf under 35 C.F.R. § 1.131 and a petition for a three-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136.